



THE MILITARY COALITION

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Alexandria, Virginia 22314
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DOCKET FILE COPY ONLY

Re: Docket 03-133

January 25, 2005

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Bureau / Office

Dear Chairman Powell:

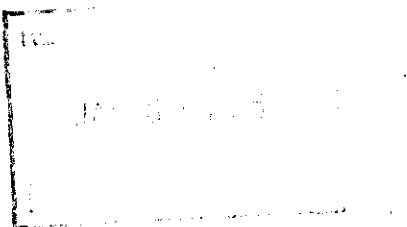
The Military Coalition (TMC), a consortium of nationally prominent military and veterans organizations, representing more than 5.5 million members plus their families and survivors, is writing to express concern over a pending FCC ruling (Docket 03-133) which could result in higher charges and access fees for pre-paid calling cards. We believe this action would have a decidedly negative impact on our servicemembers and their families.

An estimated 95% of deployed servicemembers use pre-paid calling cards to keep in touch with their families. Raising these costs by a reported 20% during a time of war would create a significant financial burden, and sends the wrong signal to our troops in the field. Servicemembers depend on this affordable means of communication to maintain a link with home. Raising costs would have an adverse effect on morale and could not come at a worse time.

We urge your consideration in denying any increase in calling card user fees while thousands of troops remain deployed overseas in the war on terror.

Sincerely,

The Military Coalition
(Signatures Enclosed)



No. of Comments
List ABCDE

0

Donald A. Robinson
Air Force Association

Richard M. Dean
Air Force Sergeants Association

Patricia K. Thompson
Air Force Women Officers
Associated

Allen J. Smith
American Logistics Association

James B. Price
ABVETS (American Veterans)

Carol L. Anderson
Army Aviation Assn. of America

James H. Stanford
Assn. of Military Surgeons
of the United States

William B. Lopez
Assn. of the US Army

Sam A. ...
Commissioned Officers Assn. of
the US Public Health Service, Inc.

Michael P. Clark
Enlisted Association of the
National Guard of the US

John ...
First Reserve Assn.

Joe ...
Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.

David ...
Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Willie B. ...
Marine Corps League

Richard H. Evans Jr.
Marine Corps Reserve Association

Mark Ryan
Military Officers Assn. of America

Sam H. Phillips
Military Order of the Purple Heart

Richard D. Murray
National Association for
Uniformed Services

Stephen M. Koenig
National Guard Assn. of the US

Lawrence W. ...
National Military Family Assn.

William T. ...
National Order of
Battlefield Commemorative

David B. ...
Naval Enlisted Reserve Assn.

J. C. ...
Naval Reserve Assn.

Gene ...
Non Commissioned Officers Assn.
of the United States of America

Robert M. ...
Reserve Officers Assn.

David E. ...
The Military Chaplains Assn. of the USA

William ...
The Retired Enlisted Assn.

Robert J. ...
United Armed Forces Assn.

J. R. ...
USCGA Chief Petty Officers Assn.

Don ...
US Army Warrant Officers Assn.

Robert ...
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US

Edna J. ...
Veterans' Widows International
Network, Inc.